



For Immediate Release

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**37 NURSES COMPLETE NURSE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Exclusive Program Trains Rising Leaders in Skilled Nursing Facilities**

(ALBANY, N.Y.) – Thirty-seven nurses from Rochester and western New York area nursing facilities have completed the Foundation for Quality Care’s Director of Nursing Leadership Program, an exclusive program for nurses in senior management roles who aspire to become or remain leaders in the long-term care profession.

The Director of Nursing Leadership Program is part of the Long Term Care Leadership Institute, which was developed by the Foundation for Quality Care, a non-profit research and educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association. The innovative program, assisted by funds from the New York State Department of Health and Labor - Health Workforce Retraining Initiative and the U.S. Health Resources and Services Administration - Nurse Education, Practice and Retention Programs, provides college-level credits through the State University of New York Institute of Technology’s (SUNYIT) School of Nursing and Health Systems in Utica.

“No one is more important to the delivery of quality care than nurses and nurse leaders. We need to do everything we can to support them,” said Richard J. Herrick, President of the New York State Health Facilities Association and the Foundation for Quality Care. “Programs such as these are critical to the long-term success of skilled nursing facilities in New York State.”

The Long Term Care Leadership Program was designed to provide nursing leaders with an ongoing educational and peer networking program that promotes personal development, core competencies and best practices in the role of long-term care nursing.

“The Institute is even more critical in these times of staffing shortages and increased quality of care and financial pressures in the long-term care profession,” said Richard Patterson, Executive Director of the Foundation for Quality Care. “This program trains the current and most importantly, the next generation of nurse leaders who care for New York’s most frail populations.”

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Nurses Complete Nurse Leadership Program 2-2-2

The 37 participants who have completed the Director of Nursing Leadership Program are:

Karen Apsey, ADON, Bridgewater Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing, **Binghamton**
Beth Beecher, Director of Nursing, Founders Pavilion, **Corning**
Jacob Clark, Director of Nursing, St. James Mercy Health Systems-McAuley Manor, **Hornell**
Julie Ann Coyle, Director of Nursing, Wesley Gardens, **Rochester**
Joel Cummings, United Methodist Homes, **Norwich**
Wendy Distaffen, Director of Nursing, The Hurlbut Nursing Home, **Rochester**
Angela Druker, Acting Director of Nursing, Penn Yan Manor Nursing Home, **Penn Yan**
Rosemary Dunford, Director of Nursing Services, The Crossings Nursing and Rehab. Centre, **Minoa**
James Gawel, Acting Director of Nursing, Legacy Healthcare Ridgeview Manor, **Buffalo**
Joanne Getman, Director of Nursing, Odd Fellow & Rebekah Rehab. & HCC Inc., **Lockport**
Fredrica Gordon, Director of Nursing, Unity Living Center, **Rochester**
Roseanne Hebert, Director of Nursing, Folts Homes, **Herkimer**
Joy Hunt, Director of Nursing, Highland Healthcare Center, **Wellsville**
Glenda Hunt, Acting Director of Nursing, Wellsville Manor Care Center, **Wellsville**
Bonnie Jensen, Director of Nursing, Baird Nursing Home, **Rochester**
Elizabeth Kanauer, Director of Nursing, Wayne County Nursing Home, **Lyons**
Colleen Klix, Senior Director of Nursing, Edna Tina Wilson LC, **Rochester**
Andrew Krause, Acting Director of Nursing, Seneca Health Care Center, **West Seneca**
Doris Kuszniir, Director of Nursing, Lakeside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, **Ithaca**
Belinda Macdonell, ADON, James Square, **Syracuse**
Lorraine McLaughlin, Asst. Director of Nursing, Kaleida Health-Deaconess SNF, **Buffalo**
Patti Murphy, ADON, St. John's Home, **Rochester**
Tammy Patak, Director of Nursing, United Methodist Homes-Hilltop Campus, **Johnson City**
Marianne Post, Director of Nursing, Kaleida Health, **Buffalo**
Mark Robbins, Director of Nursing, Chautauqua County Home, **Dunkirk**
Kelley Roland, ADON, Weinberg Campus, **Getzville**
Marcia Sauers, Director of Nursing, The Brightonian Nursing Home, **Rochester**
Lisa Silleman, ADON, Gowanda Rehabilitation & Nursing Center, **Gowanda**
Kimberly Steele, Director of Nursing, East Side Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, **Warsaw**
Anna Stein, ADON, St. Ann's Community, **Rochester**
Kristi Stokes, Director of Nursing, Oak Hill Manor, **Ithaca**
Mario Trottier, Manager of Professional Development, Highlands at Brighton, **Rochester**
Kathleen Villa Franca-Murphy, Director of Nursing Services, Kaleida Health-Degraff SNF, **N. Tonawanda**
Deborah Wainwright, Director of Nursing, Northgate Healthcare Facility, **N. Tonawanda**
Phyllis Watson, Senior Director of Clinical Services, Ideal Living Center, **Endicott**
Kimberly Wear, Director of Nursing, St. Catherine Laboure, **Buffalo**
Lori Woolston, Director of Nursing, Avon Nursing Home, **Avon**

The Foundation for Quality Care, Inc. is a non-profit educational foundation affiliated with the New York State Health Facilities Association and the New York State Center for Assisted Living, a statewide, membership organization of more than 270 licensed nursing and assisted living facilities. The membership includes individual and multi-facility operations of proprietary, voluntary and government sponsorship. NYSHFA members, who care for more than 44,000 New Yorkers, are dedicated to the highest standards of care and to the quality of life of their residents.